

c.) Remarks

Claims 2 and 4 are above cancelled in order to reduce the issues. Allowed claim 19 is also cancelled above since the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences found Applicants were not entitled to such claim.

Claims 21-27 are added in order to more specifically recite various preferred embodiments of the present invention. The subject matter of these new claims is found in the specification as filed, *inter alia*, at page 3, lines 3-22 (claims 21 and 22), from page 2, line 20 to page 3, line 2 (claims 23, 26 and 27) and page 3, lines 27-28 (claims 24 and 25). Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

As noted, the subject matter of new claims 21 and 22 is incorporated by reference from WO-A-97/19086. Since that PCT document is a family member equivalent of US Patent No. 6,831,076, the specification has been amended to reflect the same.

Previously, the Examiner allowed claims 1, 3, 15, 16 and 19, and rejected claims 2, 4, 18 and 20. As noted above, claims 2, 4 and 19 are cancelled. In the final Office Action of October 24, 2007, the Examiner stated claim 18 is a duplicate of claim 16 and claim 20 is a duplicate of claims 1 and 3. As to the Examiner's rejection of claim 20, such is not well-understood. Nevertheless, such rejection is mooted by the above amendment of claims 1 and 3 to be in independent format and cancellation of claim 20. Claim 18 has also been cancelled in order to address the Examiner's concerns.

Claims 1, 3, 15, 16 and 21-27 are presented for continued prosecution.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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